



***4" Vernalized Clematis Liners to Beautifully Finished 2.5Qt Vines in 6 Weeks!***

## **ThinkPlants Clematis Protocol & Growing Instructions**

Finishing 4' vernalized Clematis liners, grown on a trellis, well rooted, and in bud and blooms can be accomplished successfully in 6-8 weeks.

When the Clematis liners are received, they should be held in greenhouse conditions and watered shortly after arrival. Do not expose the liners to extreme freezing conditions! Liners should be potted within a few days of the target planting date.

Grow your plants in a greenhouse where you can maintain a minimum temperature of 40F at night and a maximum of 90F during the day.

Start by planting in a soil mix that is equivalent to Fafard 3B mix: Canadien Sphagnum Peat Moss (50-60%), processed pine bark, perlite, starter nutrients, wetting agent & Dolomitic limestone. It is a light mix that drains appropriately for Clematis.

The optimum pH is 5.5.

The soil should be amended with a high quality 3-6-month time release fertilizer. We recommend Nutri Cote Total 18-6-8 (140-day TR) at a medium to high rate or the equivalent top dress. Once these liners start to grow, they become heavy feeders and will perform best with a blend of the incorporated fertilizer plus liquid feed. Liquid feed is recommended at 200ppm N.

The top of the liner should be planted about ½ inch below the soil line.

The newly potted containers must be well watered after planting. Water until the entire pot is wet. The roots will quickly reach the bottom of the pot if the soil is wet. Trellises can, and for production savings, should be installed into the containers at the same time.

After the initial irrigation no more water should be required for 7 - 10 days. During this time, little growth will be noticed, and the plants do not require extra water.

Foliar elongation will begin in the second week and irrigation will then be required on an individual basis. Each pot should be well watered and then left to dry down for as many days as possible before the next watering. Be careful not to overwater during weeks 2 through 4. When the leaves start to droop, water!

Irrigation will become more frequent as the leaves begin to fill out. Liquid feed is recommended at 200 ppm N.

During the 3rd week the vine will begin growing very fast. Training and tying the leads around and through the trellises begins and will continue until the crop is shipped. Do not let them grow into one another, they will become impossible to separate! Clematis will not naturally attach themselves to the trellis, they will have to be manually tied using tape guns or clips as they work best. Tying the crop is a daily job and stems should not be pruned, only wrapped. This will ensure maximum flowering!

Please contact Dan Webber with any questions:  
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